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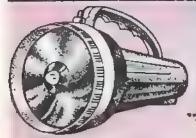
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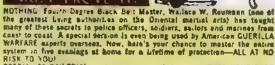
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ITEM Before we do another thing we've gotta give a mighty Marve vote of thanks to the famous servicemans newspaper Stars and Stripes, for the terr fic write in they gave our mags just a few shes ago Wa've received enthus astic letters of com ment about it from G.I. s all over the world and no wonder considering that Stars and Stripes had in ngs the this to say about Marve is responsible for getting the 45 colegate crowd or the cornes kick to The they go on to say "From the my League to the Pacific Coast conference more than 100 college campises have their own fanclub chapter of the 'Marry Marvel Marching Society Not to nier tion -They are the first breed of a per char acters that young adults can really identify 'Though the thing that really knocked tis o it was when we read. '~it's a ything but just ar other fad, when the professors are reading them, tho "We'd love to gliste. lots more but you all know how incidente ly modest we are - so well list toss an other "much ob. ged" to our great G. boosters, and let it go at that!

ITEM: We get letters each day complaining about the difficulty of finding Marvet mags in some areas. The best way to prevent this unspeakable tragedy is to tell your dealer that he should be sure to display the Marvet titles up front. We re not trying to get you to she for is but or fortonately so he deale is haven't yet realized the difference between Marves and ordinary comics — and only you, O keeper of the Faith can remedy that situation by letting your dealer know that we're taking over the world — together!

ITEM We never thought we'd say anything like this to you — because you know how greedy we are — but for the love of Aint Petunia, don't send us your nickels, dimes quarters, or postage stamps for our rings mini books, plastic figures bubble guricards, toys, or any of that jazz! We don't have any here at the Bullpen — honest We're not the ones who sell those items—the manufacturers themse was do that! So, watch for a tour Marvel goodies at your local stores and spare the gang in the Bullpen from having to lick a zillion stamps daily! Okay?

ITEM: It's time for another of our extravagant explanations! Practically every Mar-velite in captivity has written to ask why we printed a TV ad a mouth or so ago which featured another company's character! Some of the letters were cute as alget out describing us as turncoats, trai-Tois defectors, or just plain weak minded! Perhaps it was a starting sight to see a rival superhero staring at you from the pages of one of our own publications! But, the explanation is really kind a simple. We most sincerally believe in the theory of a free press. We also believe that honest competition is healthy for everybody concerned. So, if a competitor wants to pay us his own good money in order to buy an ad in one of our mags we're delighted. Actually we consider it a great compliment to so for it proves that no matter in a Marce meg' say' Do you think they di accept an ad for one of our mags in a book of theirs? It aure would be fun to find out!)

ITEM Have we told you yet about the big COMICS FAN CONVENTION held in mid town Mainattan at the end of July? The guest of number was none other than upity Jack Kirdy, who gave a short enthusiast cary received speech to his many fant a dither answered a whole kabuudle ut questions from everyone in sight. A few weeks afer, at a notter Collics Corlination of the whole Marvet Bullyen was in after during 5 in 3 Stanita ked and talked and talked and talked for hours, it his usual captic ous y confusing manner while Rascally Roy Fabulous Fin wazzy Johany W. d B li, Jajnty J m, M rth 1. Marie Ramburctious Ro- Dands Den ny u tin carry and Marry Morrie dio their boli ant bit to spread the word of Mar edom through the awed assemblage! Our thanks to Dave Kater, John Benson, and the many, many frantic fans whose heart warning hospital by and good humor he ped to make the occasion a truly memorable one for us ah!

ITEM: Before next month's mags go to the printer we should start receiving your fogest confirer to converting your Maiset outper hieroes. The Special start start of this space is well as your various letters pages for a detailed summing up of the prus and consist Marvers first vertule to what we aught, gly refer to as — Show Bird We have a hunch it II be funt to compare notes. And remember in every one of you true busievers is an official Marvel Consisting the services of the services of the services of the services.



THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

ment to s for it proves that no matter how they may hate to admit it even they day? You if call it possibly the greatest are willing to pay a bundle just to appear. F.F. spectacular of them a P. Feat in ng. Dr.

Doom - the Silver Surfer - the inhumens - and mebbe we can squeeze the F.F. themselves into a few pages! It's a blast, dad!

SPIDER-MAN #45: The engerly-numbted wrap up of our now-farmous Lizard legend. See one of the greatest fight scenes of all time as Spidey, with one arm in a singularize to takke upon of his deadlest foest SPIDER 18 to be controlled to the service of the service

AVENGERS \_ 36. No card carrying Marry / arcter would date miss the exciting rapid to a second year of Quicksiver and che Sainet Witch! And, just for good ficus fellowed in one of the most not disagger is invited evert You've best warred possycati

DAREDEVIL to 24th in answer to a zillon requests we have annuer nuty, nawbiting mystery for youl And just to make it extrasper a lifeatures the return of a lighting mad Kalžar—pils the most scribus threat yet to Maltis secret identity! A sizzlar!

THOR ....136. The big one, at last! Odin decides to make vane Foster an immortal, so that she aid the Thunder God can be married. But, it leads to one of the most unusual, unsuspected problems of aid Welkel thee not

STRANGE TALES #153: Nick Fury stars in use of the most had-raising auto chases since the Perils of Pauline, as Hydra strane again - white or. Strange attacks an army of Mindless O es, a lig e handed, to save a heighest girl.

SUSPENSE \_\_86: You've never seen from Mar stronger — more supremely powerful.

— than now, when he batt as the menacing Mandaro to a fatel of 1 issh. Meanwhile, Captain America invades an ellemy strongshold to learn the secret of the dreaded ZiRayl.

ASTONISH #88: The surprise sensation of the season! Mighty Prince Namor faces a meriace from outer space — and the evil Attuma, as well. And, talk about 1 ghts! You'ld flip your wig over the Hurk's bombshell battle with bustering Boomerang.

SGT. FURY \_38: The hard-hitting How erablaze into action in the Mediterranean theater, alongside a Japanese-American hero of the famed Nise! regiment in addition, you'll wain a be on hand to find out the latest scoop on the wounded Dine Maneliil.

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #7. The fabu ous Fantastic Four! The invincible Iron Man! The dynamic Dr. Strange! The incred bie Husk! Never before have so many fairs received so much for so little!

FANCY MASTERPIECES #6: Another terrific trio of I tanic tales with everybody's Golden Age favorite, Captain America pilos three fantasy classics!

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THE MARVEL SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV MEW YORK 10022 N. Y

Dear Stan, Rov. and Werner, X-MEN #24 was truly a smashing story. The Locust is a superb villam, but I think slightly corny. The story was not hampered by this fact, however. The thing that spouled the entire issue was the absence of Marvel Girl. Why must she leave the X-Men in order to go to Metro College? So what if Johnny Storm will be there! He will he too busy thinking about Crystal to even notice her. I firmly believe that children should respect their parents winhes, but this is going too far. Why doesn't she voice her opinious? Do the only decent thing left to be doneput Marvel Cirl back in the X-Men (permanently) where she belongs. Shirley Corman, P.O. Box 971 Dalhart, Tax.

We did, Shirl, we did-as you have no doubt noticed these past two issues! But, so that you wouldn't take your big-hearted Bullpen for granted, we decided to knock the aver-lovin' Angel out of the skies for a little while, just to keep things stirred up in our own merry manner, (Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Oblique



Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,
This is not a social letter. Neither is it a hate note. It's just a few lines to emphasize an important point. For years loyal fans have read the X-MEN with pleasure. The stories are great, the art magnificent, inking irresistible, and the lettering luscious. So what's my gripe? The mane? It's the name! For years people have read THE X-MEN without (I repeat-without) noticing one certain super-herome-Marvel Girll For years you have called the team the X-Men. Poor Jean-she's being insulted. She's a temale, a poor innocent mutant who is called an N-Man' Maybe you could change the name to the X-People or son othing, but please do something. And if this doesn't deserve a no-prize, I don't know what does, 'Nuff said!

Denma Clark, 156 Wall St. Watsonville, Cal.

Your no-prize is already on its way via our special nondelivery service, Den! Your point is well-taken, pungently presented, and daringly documented - but somehow we question the fact that the X-PEOPLE is the kind's mag title that'll knock anyone outte his tree! Mebbe we can change our name to the X-MEN AND FRIEND, or some such passionate phrase! How about the rest of you out there in meaningful Marveldom-any suggestions? (Though we must admit the odds are heavily weighted in favor of us keeping our title just the war it is!)

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner, Never have I seen more action, suspense, astonishment, or a better story plot than that witnessed in X-MEN#24l The Locust is a very formidable foe for any type of superpowered person or team. I'm happy to see the Professor walking again. The cover alone was truly a Marvel masterpiece and the fitle fit into the plot superbly. As for the Bullpen Busybees, well, they were merely the world's bestest! The third panel on page 4 brought out the true character of the Locust with the antennae effect adding greatly to the scene. The size-changing-to-enormous sequence was handled excellently. The action scenes in which the Locust tried proving his superiority to the world and to the X Men were well done. The Locust is a very marvelous villain and should be featured again, If he really has reformed and wants to pay his debt for all the harm he's caused, let him resume his Locust identity once again. Anyway, I hope you got the message and bring him back, good or bad!

Mark Campbell, 1508 Rossman, S.E. Grand Rapids, Mich. 49507

We read you loud and clear, frantic one! You seem to be one of the few lively Locust buffs extent! Hence, we shall search the fields and vales-we shall comb the woods and glens—and, as soon as we stumble over our loveable Locust, we'll see if we can once again recruit him into the ranks of Macvel super-villaindom! (Or, super-herodom, so the case may be.) Howessi?

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,
I have just started reading Marvel Conaics since I started my own business. I keep your books in my barber shop for all my customers to read. I think they're great-I think more adults read them than the kids. I coney your answers to the fans' letters best because I think they're very sharp and watty. I in planning to subscrabe to Marvel Connet

for my shop for the emovament of my customers.

Jack Mayberry, Mayberry's Barber Shop

2728 E. Belmont Ave., Fresno, Cal. 93701

Atta buy, Jackson! You may start a whole new trend! We may even have to put magazine racks in your tonsorial parlor so that you may properly display our lush literary offerings! In fact, to start the ball rolling, we're entering a complementary subscription for you so that your shop will ever be a haven for cultureseekers everywhere! And, by the way, don't be surprised if you find you can make as much money starting a Marvel lending library as you can trimming moptops! (You may not be surprised, but we sure would bel) Anyway, lots of Luck, Jack, and—in the immortal words of Honest Irving, "Make Mine Thin At The Sides And Nothing Off The Top!"

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

Congratulations on your new first-you finally did it! You have shown a Marvel villain without his mask. Please keep this up with all others, especially Magneto. I hope you keep coming up with such good stories and big vocabulary from Hank My dictionary is getting worn to a frazzle! I don't tlunk I understand what Cyke's power beam can do. In X-MEN #4 he is shown cutting cake, going through a wall, rolling guards, going through the ceiling, and attacking the MMM's (Magneto's Merry Mutants). Just one more question-where did the Locust

ever get the courage to smack good of Cyke? Wouldn't he at least hurt his hand on the faceplate?

Vincent Klemm, 584 Herrick Dr. Dover, N. J. 07801

As a matter of fact, we later learned that Loke did develop a blister on his pinky, which may indeed have been caused by his injudicious attack upon good of Cyke! As for your question about Warren's power beam, we have'ta admit that we're almost as confused as you are! But, here's what we'll do, to set the record straight-as soon as we can, we'll devote an episode in one of our yarns which will clearly, eogently, and comprehensively show exactly what Cyclops' power beam can, and can not do! Don't thank us, Vince-we need it-for reference-as much as you do!

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner, Go ahead-take Marvel Girl out of the X-Men, and you'll wreck the whole team. Outside of that incident, X-MEN #24 was up to par. Why don't you put the X-Men in 25¢ books (Annuals or Specials) so we fans who don't have the early issues can complete our collections. You'd better or I might quit buying! I'd like to know why most of your letters in your letters pages are from Americans only. Also, the F.F. is not the "World's Greatest Comic Magazine" -the X-MEN has that distinction now. Stan, I hope you visit Toronto again-it's a great city-for a great writer!! Ron Liberman, 32 Crispin Cres.

Willowdale, Ont., Canada

Your invitation is much appreciated, Ron-as is your flattering comment. We've always had a warm spot for Toronto in our heart—and can't get over the great new building program that seems to be in progress. Some of those fantastic new, magnificently-designed kyscrapers—wow! Anyway, if you look thru a whole mess of Marvel letters pages, lad, we think you'll find that we've printed countless letters from Canada, as well as almost every other nation in the free world. The reason most of the mail is from Americans is simplethe vast majority of our letters do come from the U.S.A., and we just print 'em as we get 'em! (Y'know, we even got one that was postmarked Mars a few months ago-but we still suspect it was just a gag! Although, we've always kind's wondered-wouldn't it be something if-?)



Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner, Echh, you call the X-Men mutant fighters? Maybe I'd believe you if they fought some mutants. When you introduced them, I thought that here was a different team of super-heroes with a different type of objective, "to rid the world of the evil mutants". This was their pledge, but the way I see it, they failed. They started out fighting Magneto, Mastermind, the Toad, Scarlet Witch, and Quicksilver. After six battles the Stranger finally did their job for them. They also fought Unus and the Blob, and the two of them managed to make fools out of our heroes and finally escape to terrorize homo sapiens anew. Also, in their short career they managed to fight the Avengers and Fantastic Four who are in no way evil mutants. At

this point they thought that, seeing they couldn't beat any mutants, maybe they would have better luck with the common, everyday super-villain. They attacked poor Ka-Zar, the Juggernaut, the Sentinels, the Mimic, Lucifer, a bunch of old fuddy-duddies, and the Locust, Finally, Magneto returned and the Stranger again saved the X Men. The only conclusion that I can draw is that the X-Men are afraid of other mutants, and that the Scarlet Witch and Quicksilver could mop up Professor X's school with them. By the way, the good Professor's Cerebro ma-chine is a phoney. If it were a true Cerebro, it would de-tect the presence of one of the oldest mutants that the world has spawned: Merlin. In THOR #96 Merlin said. Nobody in medieval times suspected that I was one of the mutants on earth-deriving my powers not from oc-cult magic-but from within my own body!" Some day Merlin will realize that Thor tricked him and he will awaken and crush the X-Men,

Barry Smith, 156 Hiscock Blvd. Scarborough, Ont., Canada

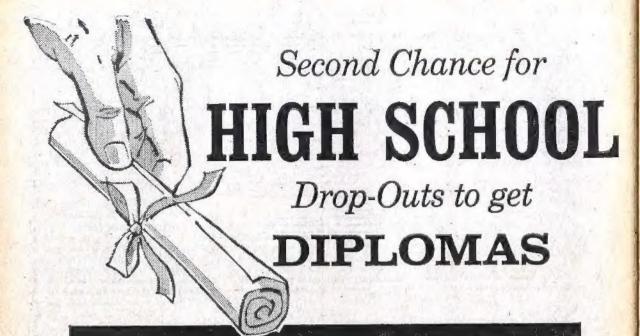
Barry, boy, we wanna thank you! Not for taking us to task so harshly-not for breaking our tender hearts with your carefully-documented criticism-no, no, a thousand times no-not for that-but, for reminding us about mean ol' Merlin! We'd forgotten all about him! So, we'll just put our heads together one of these days and see if we can't whip up a plot in which heaww-but why tell you now? Just wait'n see, paljust wait'n see!

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner, I'm a 19-year-old student nurse who'll turn 20 (quite naturally) shortly. Birthdays in the past have been normal. run-of-the-mill type, but if I get my wish, this year will be a little more special than marking the end of my teen years. Let me explain: last year, while on vacation with my parents and four brothers, I began reading the inevi-table mountains of comic books they'd brought to pass driving time away, and I met the X-Men, Fantastic Four, Thor, and the Hulk. I was duly impressed, but when it came to a choice between my budget and Marvel Comics. I'm sorry to say, the former won out. But this year was different-same situation, same month, only a year later, but this time, they bought more Marvels and I was converted. The X-Men are really a cool bunch, and I'm glad Jean got to go to college, it makes her more desirable, being away from the boys - and maybe by comparing Cyke and the regular college guys, she'll see what a doll he really is. As for Spidey, he's really fantastic. The story lines, art, and puns are a great way to unwind and relax after a busy day in the Emergency Room where I'm currently training. Anyway, the reason why my birthday may be better than average this year is that I've been throwing hints right and left, none too subtly either, in the hopes that they'll give me subscriptions to X-Men and Spidey for a present, Keep your fingers crossed for me, and keep up the great work, guys. You do a real fine job. No matter what happens, I promise-it's Marvel for me!

Jerelyn Ryan, Box 471, Marian Hall Rochester, Minn.

Jerry, honey, nurses have always been among our favorite people-and you're no exception! We hope you'll get your wish regarding a gift sub to Spideybut, to make sure there's no chance of you being totally disappointed, we're entering a complimentary subscription for you to our mirthful mutants' own mag-if you promise not to read 'em while you're on emergency duty! Good luck, lady!

NEXT ISH: Marvel Girl is back! The Angel flies again! And the soliloquizing Cyclops begins to delve into the secret of his own disaster-dealing optic blasts! What more could a dyed-in-the-wool Marvelite expect from one incredible ish? Only the most cataclysmic, cataphonic combat in contemporary comicdom, that's all—as the Mimic matches his mutant-derived powers against those of the sensationally sinister SUPER-ADAPTOID-who combines the abilities of the mighty Avengers! It's like a dozen super-struggles in one, so don't miss X-MEN #29 when it hits your neighborhood newsstand-we'd hate for you to have to stand in line at the Library of Congress!



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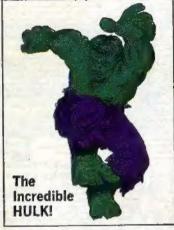
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